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## UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

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WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2003

TO: Interested Parties -- "Commercial Availability" Reviews

FROM: Jackie W. Jones, Program Manager for  
Commercial Availability Reviews  
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SUBJECT: New Commercial Availability (Formerly "Short Supply") Review on  
Apparel made with Lastol Elastic Yarn

The U.S. International Trade Commission has commenced a review to provide advice in connection with a petition filed under the "commercial availability" provisions of the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) and the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) on apparel made with lastol elastic yarn. The yarns may be classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) under subheadings 5404.10.80 (statistical reporting number 5404.10.8005) and 5402.49.90 (statistical reporting number 5402.49.9005).

This review is being conducted under the Commission's investigation for all such requests during 2003, investigation No. 332-450, *Commercial Availability of Apparel Inputs (2003): Effect of Providing Preferential Treatment to Apparel Imported from Sub-Saharan African, Caribbean Basin, and Andean Countries*, which was requested by the United States Trade Representative (USTR).

The Commission's review concerns a petition received by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on February 21, 2003, from The Dow Chemical Co., Midland, MI, alleging that the subject yarns cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The Commission will provide advice to the USTR concerning the probable economic effect on affected segments of the U.S. textile and apparel industries, workers in these industries, and consumers of granting duty-free and quota-free treatment to apparel made in eligible CBTPA and AGOA countries from the subject yarns should CITA determine that the yarns cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The Commission will submit its advice to the USTR in a classified report by April 4, 2003, and issue a public version of the report soon thereafter.

The Commission invites interested parties to submit written statements (original and 3 copies) concerning issues to be addressed by the Commission in this review, by March 21, 2003. Information on procedures for submitting written statements can be

found in the Commission's notice of investigation published in the *Federal Register* of February 4, 2003 (68 F.R. 5651) and posted on its website at <http://www.usitc.gov/invfrn.htm#332>.

Further information on this review can be obtained from Cynthia Trainor (202-205-3354; [trainor@usitc.gov](mailto:trainor@usitc.gov)). Information on the Commission's commercial availability investigation can be obtained from its Program Manager (see above) and from its website at <http://www.usitc.gov/332s/shortsup/shortsupintro.htm>. Information on commercial availability requests is also available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which chairs CITA, on the website of its Office of Textiles and Apparel (OTEXA) at ([http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/Commercial\\_Availability.htm](http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/Commercial_Availability.htm)).